

repair efforts—everything from updating fire safety systems to building new schools. In many cases, these Federal dollars have served as the needed incentive to leverage local public and private dollars, so it often has a tremendous multiplier effect within a school district. Over the years, Washington County has received \$1,971,496 in Harkin grants. Similarly, schools in Washington County have received funds that I designated for Iowa Star Schools for technology totaling \$367,796.

Agricultural and rural development: Because I grew up in a small town in rural Iowa, I have always been a loyal friend and fierce advocate for family farmers and rural communities. I have been a member of the House or Senate Agriculture Committee for 40 years—including more than 10 years as chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee. Across the decades, I have championed farm policies for Iowans that include effective farm income protection and commodity programs; strong, progressive conservation assistance for agricultural producers; renewable energy opportunities; and robust economic development in our rural communities. Since 1991, through various programs authorized through the farm bill, Washington County has received more than \$3 million from a variety of farm bill programs.

Keeping Iowa communities safe: I also firmly believe that our first responders need to be appropriately trained and equipped, able to respond to both local emergencies and to statewide challenges such as, for instance, the methamphetamine epidemic. Since 2001, Washington County's fire departments have received over \$776,144 for firefighter safety and operations equipment and over \$335,967 in assistance to law enforcement.

Wellness and health care: Improving the health and wellness of all Americans has been something I have been passionate about for decades. That is why I fought to dramatically increase funding for disease prevention, innovative medical research, and a whole range of initiatives to improve the health of individuals and families not only at the doctor's office but also in our communities, schools, and workplaces. I am so proud that Americans have better access to clinical preventive services, nutritious food, smoke-free environments, safe places to engage in physical activity, and information to make healthy decisions for themselves and their families. These efforts not only save lives, they will also save money for generations to come thanks to the prevention of costly chronic diseases, which account for a whopping 75 percent of annual health care costs. I am pleased that Washington County has recognized this important issue by securing \$35,549.

Disability rights: Growing up, I loved and admired my brother Frank, who was deaf, but I was deeply disturbed by the discrimination and obstacles he faced every day. That is why I have always been a passionate advocate for

full equality for people with disabilities. As the primary author of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the ADA Amendments Act, I have had four guiding goals for our fellow citizens with disabilities: equal opportunity, full participation, independent living and economic self-sufficiency. Nearly one-quarter century since passage of the ADA, I see remarkable changes in communities everywhere I go in Iowa not just in curb cuts or closed captioned television, but in the full participation of people with disabilities in our society and economy, folks who at long last have the opportunity to contribute their talents and to be fully included. These changes have increased economic opportunities for all citizens of Washington County, both those with and without disabilities, and they make us proud to be a part of a community and country that respects the worth and civil rights of all of our citizens.

This is at least a partial accounting of my work on behalf of Iowa, and specifically Washington County, during my time in Congress. In every case, this work has been about partnerships, cooperation, and empowering folks at the State and local level, including in Washington County, to fulfill their own dreams and initiatives, and, of course, this work is never complete. Even after I retire from the Senate, I have no intention of retiring from the fight for a better, fairer, richer Iowa. I will always be profoundly grateful for the opportunity to serve the people of Iowa as their Senator.●

REMEMBERING MARV TEIXEIRA

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I rise in remembrance of my friend, mentor, and coach, Marv Teixeira, a true Nevada statesman and dedicated public servant.

Mayor Teixeira's legacy as the longest running mayor in Carson City exemplifies his commitment and dedication to the betterment of his community. Marv served three terms as mayor and was always willing to listen to the voice of the people and base his decisions on what citizens wanted. His leadership and exemplary contributions to the State of Nevada are, and continue to remain, unmatched.

There was no disguising Marv's love of Carson City, often referring to it as "Nevada's best kept secret" and he was right. Carson City is a wonderful place to live and raise a family, and Marv's mayorship has contributed greatly. There is a long list of accomplishments that he achieved for Carson: the Pony Express Pavilion, the V&T Railway Reconstruction Project, and the Carson freeway. As mayor, he brought new companies and jobs to the area. He was an outstanding public servant. He always supported me, and we were able to work together on a bipartisan basis for the good of Nevada.

Born in 1935, Marv led a long life dedicated to selflessly serving his country and the community. He was a U.S. Air Force veteran of the Korean

war, who bravely served in South Korea. As one of our Nation's servicemembers, he made exceptional sacrifices for our country and deserves our deepest gratitude. After his time in the Air Force, Marv attended college and eventually settled in Carson City. He had a long career of 30 years as an IBM Corporation Representative in Carson and after retirement, focused on giving back to the community by becoming mayor. Marv spent much of his free time coaching Pop Warner football and Little League and was active in the development of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Western Nevada. His service to his country, as well as his bravery and dedication to his family and community, earn him a place in history among the many outstanding men and women who have contributed to our Nation and to the great Silver State.

His motivation and selflessness embodies the Battle Born State. With his passing, Nevada lost a great man who is immortalized for his service to our Nation and to the Carson City community.

My entire family extends our thoughts and condolences to Marv's wife Elizabeth and his loved ones, and we thank them for their service as well.

I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering Mayor Teixeira for his unwavering loyalty and dedication to Nevada.●

CONGRATULATING NIA SANCHEZ

● Mr. HELLER. Madam President, I wish to congratulate Nevada's own, Nia Sanchez from Las Vegas, on being crowned Miss USA 2014. Nia is the first beauty queen in the competition's history to ever win from the great State of Nevada, and I am truly honored to congratulate her on this great achievement.

The Miss USA pageant had its start in 1952 as a local "bathing beauty" competition that transformed into an international and annual tradition that has been a part of American history for the past 62 years. The women who are awarded the crown and named Miss USA are goal-oriented, knowledgeable and aware of what is going on at home and abroad. These characteristics are exemplified in Nia's everyday life, as a woman who is constantly seeking to improve the lives of others and her local community.

Nia truly is an example of a person who overcame great obstacles to achieve her dreams. When she was 8 years old, she and her mother were forced to live in a women's shelter, and that is one of the driving forces behind her choice to dedicate her life to serving others. As a fourth-degree black belt and instructor, Nia spends her time teaching martial arts to women and "Stranger Danger" classes to children in the community. She also volunteers her time teaching Sunday school

at the Shade Tree shelter in Las Vegas, which serves the needs of women, children, and their pets in Southern Nevada. Her volunteerism within the community is just one part of how she serves others. Her service extends far beyond our Nation's borders through her travels to work on mission trips to Mexico, Thailand, and the Great Wall of China. She is an exemplary Nevadan, and we are honored that she calls the Silver State home.

I know the citizens of the Silver State are proud to see a fellow Nevadan succeed in making their dream of winning Miss USA come true. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Nia Sanchez on this incredible honor and wish her the best of luck as she pursues the crown for Miss Universe and serves as a global ambassador.●

TRIBUTE TO REAR ADMIRAL THOMAS P. OSTEBO

● Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, I wish to thank RADM Thomas P. Ostebo for his leadership as commander of the U.S. Coast Guard's 17th District. In this role Rear Admiral Ostebo was responsible for all Coast Guard assets and operations in Alaska—operations that were safely executed in some of the country's harshest and most demanding conditions. From May 2011 to June 2014, Rear Admiral Ostebo was the head Coast Guard official in Alaska, leading 2,500 Active Duty, Reserve, civilian, and auxiliary personnel, all charged to keep the largest State, with over 44,000 miles of coastline, safe, secure, and prosperous. Under his leadership, Rear Admiral Ostebo's crews successfully executed this mission by conducting over 1,600 search and rescue cases, saving 519 lives and assisting more than 2,200 individuals.

In addition to commanding this courageous cadre of Coast Guard men and women, Rear Admiral Ostebo remained a consistent champion for the State of Alaska. He was a leader on Arctic issues on many different levels. He recognized the importance of the Arctic trade routes and launched operation Arctic Shield, the Coast Guard's seasonal Arctic operation, to ensure the safe transit of commercial shipping routes, maintain Alaska's wild and sustainably managed fisheries, and sustain a ready response to any rescue mission at a moment's notice. Further, Rear Admiral Ostebo fostered many important partnerships with Alaska Natives and leadership that shared best practices and traditional knowledge of those that rely on the Arctic for subsistence.

On behalf of all Alaskans I want to personally thank Rear Admiral Ostebo for the great work he has performed during his command in Alaska. I wish him the best of luck as he transitions to the next phase of his career. He will be greatly missed in Alaska.●

CONNECTICUT'S AWARD-WINNING TALENT

● Mr. MURPHY. Madam President, we have a lot to be proud of in my home State of Connecticut, and that includes our thriving arts community. Our small but vibrant theatrical arts industry is often overshadowed by that of its more renowned next-door neighbor, New York City. But this week, a home-grown production—"A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder"—took home the top honors at the 2014 Tony Awards, demonstrating the incredible talent and artistic skill that comes from our State's theaters and schools. I could not be prouder of these individuals' historic achievements.

Not only did "A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder" win "Best Musical" of the year, but director Darko Tresnjak of Connecticut's Hartford Stage took home "Best Direction of a Musical;" Yale Drama School graduate Robert L. Freedman won "Best Book of a Musical;" and Linda Cho, also a graduate of the Yale Drama School, won "Best Costume Design of a Musical."

The musical originally premiered under Mr. Tresnjak's direction in 2012 at the Hartford Stage in Hartford, CT. The musical follows the story of a British commoner, Monty Navarro, who discovers he is ninth in line to inherit an earldom and great wealth, and decides to eliminate the other eight heirs who stand in his way. The musical stars only three actors, all with Connecticut ties. The talented lead actor Jefferson Mays of Clinton, CT plays an incredible total of eight characters throughout the course of the musical. He is supported by Bryce Pinkham and Lauren Worsham, both graduates of the Yale Drama School.

In 2013, the musical and its Connecticut cast moved to Broadway, where it became the most Tony Award-nominated musical of the 2013–2014 season and ultimately took home the night's top honors. Their victories are not only wins for their careers and productions, but also for the State of Connecticut.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these incredible artists on their Tony Award-winning performances, and I wish the company of "A Gentleman's Guide" all of the continued success in the world as it goes on to enrich the lives of many more audiences for years to come.●

REMEMBERING TOMAS VILLANUEVA

● Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, I would like to pay tribute to an incredible advocate for farmworker rights from the State of Washington, Tomas Villanueva.

Tomas's family immigrated to the United States from Mexico when he was 14 years old. They settled in Toppenish in 1958, where Tomas was able to earn his GED, allowing him the opportunity to enroll in Yakima Valley

College. After being inspired by César Chavez's United Farmworkers moment, Tomas and classmate Lupe Gamboa traveled to California in 1967 to learn more about organizing. Upon their return to the Yakima Valley, Tomas and Lupe formed the United Farm Worker Cooperative, one of the first activist Chicano organizations in Washington State. Out of Tomas's activism came the Yakima Valley Farmworker's Clinic and the United Farmworkers Service Center.

After a brief break to focus on a family business, Tomas became the first president of the United Farmworkers of Washington State.

Tomas dedicated his life to improving working conditions and health care standards for farmworkers, and I could always rely on Tomas's wisdom, guidance, and advocacy on the important issues of justice, human rights, and comprehensive immigration reform.

Tomas was gifted in his ability to translate the challenging issues farmworkers face to community leaders and politicians, inspiring their support and work on behalf of farmworker rights.

While Tomas was informed and passionate, he was also pragmatic about how we as a State—and as a nation—can do a better job of caring and advocating for farmworkers and their families.

He will be so missed, but his legacy will live on.

Mr. President, I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Tomas Villanueva. During this difficult time my thoughts are with his friends, family, and all whom he inspired.●

TRIBUTE TO ADRIANA ALVAREZ

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Adriana Alvarez, a 2013 press intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Adriana is a sophomore pursuing a major in Public Relations at Florida International University. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Adriana for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO RACHEL CREW

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Rachel Crew, a 2013 intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Rachel is a senior at the University of Central Florida, where she is majoring in political science pre-law. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.